Damage to Fence in J&K by Snowfall

3603. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is feared that the newly erected fence in Jammu and Kashmir to prevent infiltration from across the border may have been damaged due to unprecedented snowfall in the region;

(b) if so, whether the Army has inspected the fencing to assess the damage during the recent spell of heavy snow in the State: and

(c) the outcome of the inspection of the fencing along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir and measures taken to repair the damage?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The fencing on Line of Control has come under snow at various places due to heavy snow fall in Jammu and Kashmir in the month of February 2005. The assessment of the damage after the snowfall is a continuous process and repairs undertaken keeping in view the extent of the damage.

Indo-Pakistan joint survey of boundary pillars of Sir Creek

3604. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that India and Pakistan have agreed for setting up of a joint survey team to survey the boundary pillars of Sir Creek;

(b) if yes, the details thereof;

(c) whether the team which was supposed to submit its report in January, 2005, has submitted its report; and

(d) if so, what are the recommendations made by the survey team?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Following a meeting between External Affairs Minister Shri K. Natwar Singh and Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Khurshid M. Kasuri, on September 8, 2004, both sides announced their agreement to conduct a joint survey